

1	BEFORE THE ARIZON	A POWER PLANT
2	AND TRANSMISSION LINE	E SITING COMMITTEE
3		
4 5 6 7 8	IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF SOUTHWEST TRANSMISSION COOPERATIVE, INC., OR ITS ASSIGNEES, FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY FOR THE SAN MANUEL INTERCONNECT PROJECT LOCATED IN THE VICINITY OF SAN MANUEL IN PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA.) DOCKET NO.) L-00000CC-09-0158-00142) Case No. 142) PREFILING) MEETING
9	ANIZONA.	- AZ Z
10		REC NZ CORP DOCKET
11		
12	At: Phoenix, Arizona	RECEIVED CORP CONVESSION CORP CORP CORP CORP CORP CORP CORP CORP
13	Date: March 9, 2009	
14	Filed: March 30, 2009	
15		
16	REPORTER'S TRANSCRIP	T OF PROCEEDINGS
17		
18	Advance Comparation Commission	
19	Arizona Comporation Commission DOCKETED ARIZONA REPORTING SERVICE, INC.	
20	MAR 3 0 2009	Court Reporting Suite 502
21	I DOCKETED BY 1 4 1 1	00 North Central Avenue ix, Arizona 85004-1481
22	By: MICHELE E. BALMER Certified Reporter Certificate No. 50489	
24	Prepared for:	
25	SITING COMMITTEE ORIGINAL	

ARIZONA REPORTING SERVICE, INC. www.az-reporting.com

(602) 274-9944 Phoenix, Arizona

FOR INTERNAL & INTERAGENCY USE ONLY

Pursuant to the contract with Arizona Reporting Service all transcripts are available electronically for internal agency use **only**.

Do not copy, forward or transmit outside the Arizona Corporation Commission.

1	BE IT REMEMBERED that the above-entitled matter	
2	came on regularly to be heard before the Arizona Power	
3	Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee, 1275 West	
4	Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona, commencing at.	
5	10:00 a.m. on the 9th day of March, 2009.	
6		
7	BEFORE: JOHN FOREMAN, Committee Chairman	
8		
9	APPEARANCES:	
10	For the Arizona Corporation Commission Staff:	
11	Ms. Robin Mitchell Staff Attorney, Legal Division	
12	1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007	
13		
14	For Southwest Transmission Cooperative, Inc.:	
15	GALLAGHER & KENNEDY, P.A. By: Mr. Michael M. Grant	
16	2575 East Camelback Road, Suite 1100 Phoenix, Arizona 85016	
17		
18		
19	MICHELE E. BALMER Certified Reporter	
20	Certificate No. 50489	
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

- 1 CHMN. FOREMAN: Why don't we go on the record.
- 2 This is a preapplication conference or get-together in --
- 3 what is this project called?
- 4 MR. GRANT: It is called: In the matter of the
- 5 application of Southwest Transmission Cooperative, Inc.,
- 6 or its assignees, for a Certificate of Environmental
- 7 Compatibility for the San Manuel interconnect project,
- 8 located in the vicinity of San Manuel in Pinal County,
- 9 Arizona. And we anticipate filing the week of March 23rd.
- 10 CHMN. FOREMAN: Okay. There's no, like, less
- 11 ponderous name that this project goes by?
- MR. GRANT: The San Manuel interconnect project.
- 13 CHMN. FOREMAN: All right. Great. Do we
- 14 anticipate there are going to be any parties other than
- 15 Staff that's going to be involved?
- 16 MR. GRANT: Mr. Chairman, no opposition. The
- 17 Southwest Transmission Cooperative did a postcard mailing
- 18 to all residents, property owners in the San Manuel area
- 19 on February 20, and have received about six phone calls,
- 20 mostly just informational. So we know of no intention or
- 21 opposition in relation to the project.
- 22 CHMN. FOREMAN: You have a copy of the proposed
- 23 notice?
- MR. GRANT: I do.
- 25 CHMN. FOREMAN: Form of notice?

- 1 MR. GRANT: I do indeed.
- 2 CHMN. FOREMAN: Have you shared that with
- 3 Counsel?
- 4 MR. GRANT: Actually, I had not yet.
- 5 CHMN. FOREMAN: Okay.
- 6 MR. GRANT: I did pattern this after, Judge, the
- 7 hearing notice in -- I think it was 138. Now, this,
- 8 obviously, is a much -- doesn't have alternative routes
- 9 and is much simpler, but I thought that was one of the
- 10 most recent forms of notice that you had.
- I also, obviously, had some questions about, in
- 12 the circumstances, whether the committee would want a tour
- 13 of the site. And this is pretty remote. Most of it is on
- 14 private property. The BHP closed the mine site, and
- 15 there's only a couple of -- I can explain this, but
- 16 there's only a couple of places where you can even really
- 17 see the property. So I wasn't sure in these circumstances
- 18 if the committee wanted to have a tour of the site or not.
- 19 So I had made provision for that, and figured we would
- 20 perhaps discuss it this morning.
- 21 CHMN. FOREMAN: And we will. I have for each of
- 22 you a draft procedural order that we're going to go
- 23 through in a little bit, and the tour is going to be one
- 24 of the issues that will be involved in that.
- 25 Let's talk about dates. How long do you

- 1 anticipate the hearing will go? What dates look like they
- 2 would be doable?
- MR. GRANT: Judge, at the risk of dooming us, I
- 4 really anticipate that this should be a one-day hearing or
- 5 less. I will only have two witnesses, Jim Burson, the
- 6 manager of engineering for Southwest Transmission, who
- 7 will explain the need for the project and some of its
- 8 engineering details and those kinds of things. And then
- 9 we will have an environmental witness from SWCA, I believe
- 10 it is, who will testify about the environmental aspects of
- 11 the project and details of the application, the
- 12 information required by the rule, et cetera.
- I would plan on prefiling their testimony as I
- 14 normally do before the hearing, which also helps shorten
- 15 things up, and have a short opening statement. As I say,
- 16 it's a four-and-a-half mile interconnection from an
- 17 existing line to an existing substation, most of which
- 18 running on -- about three-and-a-half of the
- 19 four-and-a-half miles running on BHP property between some
- 20 tailing sites. So there's not a whole lot there to talk
- 21 about, so I'm hopeful that it would be a one-day hearing.
- 22 CHMN. FOREMAN: Does the Staff have any plans to
- 23 present testimony?
- MS. MITCHELL: We will probably present just one
- 25 witness.

- 1 CHMN. FOREMAN: Okay.
- MS. MITCHELL: And like Mr. Grant, we can prefile
- 3 that testimony. And I would imagine any opening statement
- 4 that I had would be very brief.
- 5 CHMN. FOREMAN: Okay. Do you think that a
- 6 one-day hearing is a possibility?
- 7 MS. MITCHELL: Yes, I do. I always hesitate to
- 8 say that, because sometimes the simplest things can
- 9 somehow turn into the most complex. But I would
- 10 anticipate, from what I know about the project, that it
- 11 should only take one day.
- 12 CHMN. FOREMAN: If we do have some sentiment for
- 13 a tour, and if we can figure out how to engineer a tour in
- 14 a way that will be agreeable to everybody, that's going to
- 15 lengthen the process.
- MR. GRANT: Sure.
- 17 CHMN. FOREMAN: We also have to have a public
- 18 comment period. And it's been traditional to have those
- 19 public comments later in the day, giving people who work
- 20 during the day the opportunity to come and talk.
- It's kind of hard for me to figure out how we
- 22 could do that and then come back afterwards and vote. I
- 23 guess we could do it in the evening, or come back and do
- 24 it the next morning.
- 25 MR. GRANT: Yeah. I hadn't thought about that.

- 1 The last one that we had done for Southwest Transmission
- 2 Cooperative does go back a couple of years. We did not
- 3 have an evening public comment session. We had a public
- 4 comment session at the beginning of the hearing. So I
- 5 wasn't factoring that into the process.
- 6 CHMN. FOREMAN: Do you anticipate any public
- 7 comment?
- 8 MR. GRANT: Judge, as I say, we mailed to -- I
- 9 think there's about 18 -- you know, San Manuel is not an
- 10 incorporated town, but we mailed everyone that we knew of
- 11 on February 20 a postcard offering information on the
- 12 project. There's only about eight people who live within
- 13 a half a mile of this project, and there are existing
- 14 transmission lines and an existing substation already
- 15 there. And as I say, we had only received five or six
- 16 telephone inquiries, and not people upset, just asking,
- 17 what is the deal? Could you give me some more
- 18 information?
- 19 So I really, based upon what I know now, in good
- 20 faith, I think it's entirely possible that there may not
- 21 be public comment. Obviously, BHP is in support of the
- 22 project. They are actively marketing this mine site as a
- 23 possible solar renewables location. And, of course, this
- 24 project would facilitate the transmission of that power.
- 25 So BHP is very much in favor of it. I think because of

- 1 that, the surrounding community, to the extent that they
- 2 know of it, support it because it could be a good economic
- 3 benefit for the area.
- 4 So based upon what I know, it's entirely possible
- 5 that there -- well, there certainly wouldn't be much, if
- 6 any, public comment.
- 7 CHMN. FOREMAN: Where geographically were you
- 8 thinking about having the hearing?
- 9 MR. GRANT: That's one of the other issues. Let
- 10 me get my handy-dandy map here. There really is no
- 11 facility in San Manuel that can accommodate this hearing.
- 12 BHP, when the mine was operational, had built a community
- 13 center in San Manuel, but it has not been maintained ever
- 14 since the mine closed a number of years ago. I'm told by
- 15 the client that it has graffiti all over it, and it simply
- 16 would not be -- I think the client said, "I would be
- 17 embarrassed to have the committee come to that location."
- 18 So the nearest -- looking at the map here, San
- 19 Manuel is right here. The nearest thing to it is a
- 20 community center, the Saddlebrooke Community Center, which
- 21 is near the Biosphere, and that's about 25 miles away.
- 22 And it would be -- I'm told it's just below the junction
- 23 of Highway 79 and 77.
- And we have checked. It would be available for
- 25 one day in May. We can probably book a day in May there.

- 1 They can't do back-to-back days because of other things
- 2 they have scheduled. Southwest Gas, I'm told, has had
- 3 some public meetings at that location, and that's the
- 4 Saddlebrooke Community Center.
- 5 The only other, really, facility in the vicinity
- 6 is down in Oro Valley, and that's the Hilton. That's a
- 7 very nice facility, I'm told, but that's about 35 miles
- 8 away from San Manuel. So it's even tough getting --
- 9 because of the remoteness of this site, it's kind of tough
- 10 even getting a hearing very close to it.
- 11 CHMN. FOREMAN: Is this community center that's
- 12 closer open in the evening?
- MR. GRANT: The impression that I get from the
- 14 client is that it can be open at any time. It's just in
- 15 exceptionally bad shape.
- 16 CHMN. FOREMAN: I'm sorry. The one that was
- 17 south of the junction here.
- 18 MR. GRANT: I'm sorry. The community center,
- 19 yeah, or the -- yeah. Yes, I believe it is. I know they
- 20 were going to make it available the night before so we
- 21 could, if we selected that hearing location, so we could
- 22 set up audio/visual equipment. It's just that they can't
- 23 do two back-to-back days. I could certainly confirm, but
- 24 I believe we could do probably an evening session there.
- 25 CHMN. FOREMAN: That would be taking, I quess, a

- 1 significant risk if we do have to have it for a second day
- 2 and weren't able to. Then we're talking about --
- 3 MR. GRANT: -- rescheduling.
- 4 CHMN. FOREMAN: -- rescheduling.
- 5 MR. GRANT: Or at least the second day.
- 6 CHMN. FOREMAN: Sounds to me like it would make
- 7 more sense to move 10 further miles down the road and get
- 8 a place where we could get two consecutive days.
- 9 MR. GRANT: Go to the Hilton.
- 10 CHMN. FOREMAN: Does that make sense to the
- 11 Staff?
- 12 MS. MITCHELL: Yes.
- 13 CHMN. FOREMAN: All right. Then, if we're going
- 14 to go to the hotel in Oro Valley, what about days?
- MR. GRANT: Well, we're planning on filing that
- 16 week of March 23, so I guess a couple of weeks from now.
- 17 So that indicated that -- assuming, you know, five, six
- 18 days to get the notice posted and published, that would
- 19 mean, basically, a May hearing. The only days that are
- 20 bad for my witnesses are May 20 to 22, and May 4 to 6.
- 21 Otherwise, we are available.
- 22 CHMN. FOREMAN: And what about Staff?
- 23 MS. MITCHELL: I think those days would work.
- 24 I'm okay. I don't go out as far as you do to the end of
- 25 May, but it's looking okay.

- 1 CHMN. FOREMAN: I'm sorry. Again, it was May 20?
- MR. GRANT: May 20 to 22, and May 4 to 6. Those
- 3 are the bad days. Otherwise, the witnesses were available
- 4 pretty much throughout May. May 25 is Memorial Day.
- 5 CHMN. FOREMAN: And I've already got some
- 6 conflicts that next week, including an out-of-state trip
- 7 planned. So I think it will be really tricky to go then.
- 8 So that kind of moves us back somewhere between the 6th
- 9 and the 20th. I think it would be safer to schedule it
- 10 for two days, and hope that we can get it done in one.
- MR. GRANT: Sure.
- 12 CHMN. FOREMAN: I need to poll the committee
- 13 members about what is good for them. Let me -- and we'll
- 14 need to have a pre-evidentiary hearing to finalize things,
- 15 but that's something that can be done back here. And I
- 16 would like that done less than 10 days before the
- 17 evidentiary hearing so that we know that anybody who is
- 18 going to file a notice or application to intervene will
- 19 have done it by then.
- MR. GRANT: Okay.
- 21 CHMN. FOREMAN: Or anybody who is going to timely
- 22 file that notice or application will have done it by then.
- 23 All right.
- MR. GRANT: Oh, one other thing I should mention.
- 25 I jotted a note here to myself that I forgot to cover. On

- 1 the site tour issue, we do plan to have a Google Earth
- 2 flyover for the committee, if that helps.
- 3 CHMN. FOREMAN: That would be helpful.
- 4 MR. GRANT: And that, obviously, will give, you
- 5 know, the aerial view and show the terrain and the
- 6 structures and those kind of things.
- 7 MS. MITCHELL: May I ask an unrelated question to
- 8 the tour?
- 9 CHMN. FOREMAN: Sure.
- MS. MITCHELL: Mike, do you think the mine will
- 11 intervene?
- MR. GRANT: I don't think so, no.
- MS. MITCHELL: Okay.
- MR. GRANT: They might show up and say rah-rah,
- 15 but --
- MS. MITCHELL: Might give public comment. Okay.
- 17 CHMN. FOREMAN: Let's go through the draft
- 18 procedural order. That will probably cover the waterfront
- 19 of issues that I have.
- 20 I'm going to implement this order, file this
- 21 order after the application is filed. I'll want to
- 22 schedule the 180-day limit out and, again, make sure that
- 23 we all agree on that time. If you do disagree, why,
- 24 disagree in writing as soon as you can.
- MR. GRANT: Sure.

- 1 CHMN. FOREMAN: The form, I'm going to presume,
- 2 is going to be similar to what you sent to me. Because
- 3 there are some issues with regard to the 138 form, I'm
- 4 going to want to review this and see if there's a problem.
- 5 I think all of the problems are going to be problems
- 6 associated with the agenda that I'll file.
- 7 MR. GRANT: Okay.
- 8 CHMN. FOREMAN: And I have redrafted our agenda
- 9 form for that. That is covered in one of these
- 10 paragraphs, Paragraph 7. And I'll file the agenda, and
- 11 then if there's any objection or correction that needs to
- 12 be made to be agenda, I'll want some feedback from you
- 13 folks as soon as possible so that we can get the agenda in
- 14 a form that everybody agrees is acceptable.
- When we do plug in the dates for the hearing,
- 16 I'll want the Applicant to share the finalized draft with
- 17 Staff, and I'll want Staff to sign off on it.
- 18 MR. GRANT: Certainly. Point of clarification on
- 19 No. 7. If I'm reading this correctly, it really is the
- 20 Staff that comments on the agenda. Am I reading that
- 21 correctly?
- 22 CHMN. FOREMAN: No. Staff, or if Staff is not
- 23 the party, the Applicant shall submit. So since Staff is
- 24 in this case, I'll want Staff's response.
- MR. GRANT: Okay. So I would be submitting.

- 1 CHMN. FOREMAN: You don't have to.
- 2 MR. GRANT: Okay.
- 3 CHMN. FOREMAN: You don't have to, but you may.
- 4 If you pick up something, tell me about it.
- 5 MR. GRANT: Sure.
- 6 CHMN. FOREMAN: What we're trying to do is
- 7 correct these errors in a timely fashion and not wait
- 8 until the end of the case.
- 9 MR. GRANT: Understood. I just wasn't quite sure
- 10 who was supposed to send it over your way.
- 11 CHMN. FOREMAN: All right. We'll pick out a date
- 12 and time for the evidentiary hearing.
- We can talk about -- going back to Paragraph 2
- 14 and 3, as I said, we'll notice it for two days. We'll
- 15 schedule -- I think we'll schedule -- well, if we schedule
- 16 a public comment session in the evening, we're really
- 17 stuck with coming back on the second day.
- 18 MR. GRANT: Is it possible we could schedule it
- 19 more toward, say, 4:00 in the afternoon type time frame?
- 20 CHMN. FOREMAN: Sure. I think we could. I would
- 21 like to talk to my committee members and see whether they
- 22 want to have an evening session, or whether they would be
- 23 willing to work a long afternoon and try to get it done in
- 24 one day.
- 25 All right. Paragraph 4, check with Mr. Kearns,

- 1 who is the financial officer over there. He's asked to
- 2 have you check with him --
- 3 MR. GRANT: Will do.
- 4 CHMN. FOREMAN: -- on making logistical
- 5 arrangements.
- I want you guys to meet and confer, obviously,
- 7 exchange information, exchange exhibits, and so on.
- Number 6 is an attempt to address some concerns
- 9 that have been raised before about communications. So all
- 10 communication with committee members about anything
- 11 relating to the application is to be through me. It's to
- 12 be either in writing or at a hearing where there's a court
- 13 reporter like this one.
- MR. GRANT: Okay.
- 15 CHMN. FOREMAN: If you send a letter, file a
- 16 copy.
- 17 MR. GRANT: File it with the docket?
- 18 CHMN. FOREMAN: If you send an e-mail, make a
- 19 hard copy and file it with Docket Control.
- MR. GRANT: Okay.
- 21 CHMN. FOREMAN: And I'll do the same. There are
- 22 times when you have to send an e-mail just because of the
- 23 time issues. And we'll just have a rule that all of the
- 24 e-mails will go into the docket.
- MR. GRANT: Okay.

- 1 CHMN. FOREMAN: We've talked about Paragraph 7.
- 2 Paragraph 8 I don't think is going to be an issue
- 3 here. Paragraph 9, if everybody submits their -- prefiles
- 4 their testimony, that will address 9.
- 5 Paragraph 10. It would be helpful, if you're
- 6 going to have exhibits shown to witnesses, to have copies
- 7 of them for everybody on the committee. If we're going to
- 8 have just one three-ring binder's worth of exhibits and
- 9 not have multiple binders, then just get a binder so
- 10 everybody can have them there and we can just put
- 11 everybody's exhibits in. Applicant's exhibits are going
- 12 to be numbered A-1, A-2, A-3, et cetera. Corporation
- 13 Commission exhibits, CC-1, CC-2, CC-3.
- 14 MR. GRANT: Judge, at least at the current time,
- 15 from my standpoint, I think the only exhibit that I
- 16 contemplate is the application itself. But if that
- 17 changes --
- 18 CHMN. FOREMAN: Things like maps sometimes make
- 19 their way in, and those are always helpful to the
- 20 committee members in trying to orient themselves. I think
- 21 that they will be especially important if we don't have
- 22 the tour.
- MR. GRANT: Okay.
- 24 CHMN. FOREMAN: Or actually may be important even
- 25 if we do have the tour.

- Opening statements, hopefully I don't need to set
- 2 time limits. Let's just say that Paragraph 12's time
- 3 limits are aspirational here.
- 4 MR. GRANT: Right.
- 5 CHMN. FOREMAN: Public comment we will probably
- 6 hear during the day. And if it appears that there's
- 7 somebody that wants to talk later, we may come back later.
- 8 We may just -- well, except if we put in the notice a
- 9 public comment time in the evening, we really are
- 10 obligated, I think, to stay and do the public comment time
- 11 in the evening.
- So I'll need to talk to my committee members
- 13 before I find out whether they want to go ahead. And if
- 14 I'm understanding, both of you are comfortable with having
- 15 a public comment session during the day, during, let's
- 16 say, the noon hour, for people who want to come in then.
- 17 MR. GRANT: Sure.
- MS. MITCHELL: Yes.
- 19 CHMN. FOREMAN: Or at any time somebody else
- 20 comes in.
- MR. GRANT: Sure.
- 22 CHMN. FOREMAN: And you'll have forms available
- 23 for people to come in and say: I'm John Smith, and I want
- 24 to talk about --
- MR. GRANT: Sure.

- 1 CHMN. FOREMAN: And that can be brought to my
- 2 attention, because it's hard to keep track of everything
- 3 that's going on --
- 4 MR. GRANT: Understood.
- 5 CHMN. FOREMAN: -- in the room.
- Now, as far as the tours are concerned, if people
- 7 want to take a tour, the only way that I can figure out to
- 8 engineer a tour that will meet all of the concerns that
- 9 have been raised in the first set of cases that I was
- 10 involved in is to bring a court reporter along. So that
- 11 will be a thrilling experience, I'm sure, for the court
- 12 reporters.
- And I think we'll need at least one witness who
- 14 can describe the locale so that when people get out of
- 15 their car and, you know, where are we? What are we
- 16 looking at? Where is the line supposed to go? Where does
- 17 the corridor go? Those are all questions that make the
- 18 tour meaningful, and they're questions that are more
- 19 meaningfully answered at the time and place.
- 20 And we have a disagreement as to whether or not
- 21 those are things that need to be covered, and so let's
- 22 just not worry about that by getting a court reporter
- 23 there and getting it all done.
- MR. GRANT: Sure. And Judge, about referring to
- 25 this map -- and incidentally, I thought this map might be

- 1 used in relation to the notice. I gave the court reporter
- 2 and also counsel a copy.
- But if a tour was desired, this is all, you know,
- 4 BHP property through here. Maybe you could -- you can see
- 5 Reddington Road here. Perhaps you could stop here. This
- 6 is tailings and some pretty rough territory. I'm not sure
- 7 the committee would really want to go in there.
- And then if you wanted another perspective, there
- 9 is this South River Road up here. That's kind of a haul
- 10 to get to it. It is not a very frequently used road, but
- 11 that would -- then you could look back this way, again
- 12 toward the tailings, and you could look over -- although
- 13 this is separated by about a mile or so -- you could look
- 14 over and perhaps see the existing Southwest Transmission
- 15 line.
- 16 CHMN. FOREMAN: Is this South River Road
- 17 accessible by a standard automobile, or do you need a
- 18 four-wheel drive?
- MR. GRANT: You know, I didn't ask that. I think
- 20 it's okay for a standard automobile, but I will
- 21 double-check that.
- 22 CHMN. FOREMAN: Okay. I would like to know the
- 23 answer to that question.
- MR. GRANT: Understood. I know I asked the
- 25 client if it's a very well-traveled road, and they said

- 1 not at all.
- 2 CHMN. FOREMAN: Okay.
- MR. GRANT: There are basically just a couple of
- 4 ranches that are in this vicinity that it kind of runs to.
- 5 CHMN. FOREMAN: Well, if this is a four-wheel
- 6 drive track, then I think that means in order for the
- 7 committee to get up there, we would have to get four-wheel
- 8 drives, and we would have to go all the way around. I
- 9 don't know what the scale is on that. What is the
- 10 distance around?
- MR. GRANT: Let's see. You would have to come up
- 12 77 just -- oh, here it is. Come up 77 this way toward
- 13 Mammoth. And above Mammoth it then will intersect with
- 14 this River Road and you'll come back down south. The San
- 15 Pedro does not run throughout the year. It runs only at
- 16 times in this area.
- 17 CHMN. FOREMAN: So if I'm understanding you, it
- 18 looks like it could be maybe a 30-mile round trip?
- 19 MR. GRANT: Yeah.
- 20 CHMN. FOREMAN: And if we're talking about a
- 21 four-wheel drive path, that's an hour, perhaps two, of
- 22 driving.
- MR. GRANT: Yeah.
- CHMN. FOREMAN: Well, as I said, I've got to talk
- 25 to my committee members and find out if there's anybody

- 1 who is that enthusiastic about it.
- MR. GRANT: That's why I was hoping that perhaps
- 3 both the combination of the maps and the Google Earth
- 4 flyover, and just the general description in the
- 5 application, would alleviate the need in this particular
- 6 case. And the fact that it's interconnecting two existing
- 7 facilities and those kinds of things, that perhaps a tour
- 8 might not be necessary.
- 9 It appears to be going up above Mammoth. I just
- 10 don't know how far.
- 11 CHMN. FOREMAN: It looks to me like it's going to
- 12 be problematic to do the tour, and I'm just -- well, I
- 13 just don't know until I talk to everybody whether they
- 14 would be enthused about it, so let me do that.
- 15 MR. GRANT: Or alternatively, at least if the
- 16 committee wants to do it, there would be something of a
- 17 vantage point here on south Reddington Road, so at least
- 18 you could look this way.
- 19 CHMN. FOREMAN: What is the elevation gain? Does
- 20 it go up over the top of this, or is this a canyon down
- 21 through it?
- MR. GRANT: I think it's relatively flat, with
- 23 the exception of this is a cut. Obviously, the tailings
- 24 piles are going to -- they would be up, but this will be
- 25 it. So you will have a pretty straight -- as I understand

- 1 it, fairly level view through this canyon, but, obviously,
- 2 visually obstructed on both sides by -- these are
- 3 reclaimed tailings piles, as I understand it.
- 4 CHMN. FOREMAN: Okay. All right. Well, let me
- 5 just check on that, and we'll -- Tara will have to talk to
- 6 our committee members and see what their feelings are.
- 7 All right. So we'll decide on a tour or no tour soon.
- Panels, doesn't sound like we're going to have
- 9 issues there.
- 10 Transcripts.
- MR. GRANT: We will expedite.
- 12 CHMN. FOREMAN: And file locally a couple of
- 13 places.
- 14 Proposed findings of fact, conclusions of law,
- 15 and CECs and conditions. I have provided you with some
- 16 draft conditions that I give to you as a potential
- 17 starting point.
- 18 MR. GRANT: Okay.
- 19 CHMN. FOREMAN: All of them will not be relevant
- 20 in this case, but, obviously, I didn't know which ones
- 21 would and which ones wouldn't. The proposed findings of
- 22 fact and conclusions of law are very summary. I encourage
- 23 more specific findings of fact and conclusions of law.
- 24 But let's say that what I have put in there is sort of the
- 25 minimum that I have seen from prior CECs that would

- 1 satisfy the need for those.
- I would like for you to discuss those, and I'll
- 3 have them available before the hearing in this case if
- 4 we're going to get it done in one day. It's always nice
- 5 to have something in writing to work off of. If you have
- 6 disagreements, flag the disagreements. If you agree on
- 7 things, that's great. Let us know, and that's always
- 8 helpful to the committee in their deliberations on the
- 9 CEC.
- MR. GRANT: Judge, let me go back to that library
- 11 point.
- 12 CHMN. FOREMAN: Sure.
- MR. GRANT: We don't have one. There just isn't
- 14 much, apparently, that's of a community nature in San
- 15 Manuel.
- 16 CHMN. FOREMAN: Is there anything in Mammoth?
- 17 Where do the people go to shop or go to school?
- 18 MR. GRANT: Let me check. Let me check.
- 19 CHMN. FOREMAN: Yeah. And if you have -- just if
- 20 there's one, for example, in north Tucson and then one in
- 21 Mammoth, that would be great. Another option would be to
- 22 leave it at the -- if there's a town hall or a town
- 23 meeting place that people have just so that local people,
- 24 if they wanted to keep an eye on what was happening, they
- 25 would have a place to go. I don't know if there is a

- 1 local government in San Manuel that would be willing to
- 2 take custody of those things or not.
- 3 MR. GRANT: Well, I know it is not an
- 4 incorporated city, so it doesn't have any city government
- 5 or city buildings or anything along those lines, but let
- 6 me check and see what is there.
- 7 CHMN. FOREMAN: See if you can find an
- 8 alternative. What we're looking for is just a place that
- 9 would be readily accessible to people that live in the
- 10 area where they would be able to come in and take a look
- 11 at what was done at the hearings.
- MR. GRANT: Access point. Okay.
- 13 CHMN. FOREMAN: And I'm open to proposals on
- 14 that. And if we have -- as I said, it seems to me if
- 15 there's something in north Tucson or the Oro Valley area,
- 16 that seems to be that would be a place to put one. And
- 17 then if there isn't anything else locally, then I'm open
- 18 to proposals in that regard.
- 19 MR. GRANT: Okav.
- 20 CHMN. FOREMAN: Now, I think 18 is probably not
- 21 going to be an issue, because it looks like we're going to
- 22 have a one- or two-day hearing.
- No. 19 we've talked about.
- 24 Exchanging witness summaries, proposed findings
- 25 of fact, proposed conclusions of law, and proposed

- 1 Certificates of Environmental Compatibility, those
- 2 conditions of certificates. Just when you do those
- 3 exchanges, be sure that you file it with Docket Control so
- 4 there's a record.
- 5 Again, meet and confer so that we can narrow the
- 6 disagreements between the parties as closely as possible.
- 7 And I think that covers most of what we have.
- 8 MR. GRANT: Okay.
- 9 CHMN. FOREMAN: Do you folks have questions?
- 10 MS. MITCHELL: I don't.
- MR. GRANT: Judge, I don't know. Let me just
- 12 check my notes.
- Oh, I know. Physical posting. Again, there's
- 14 not many areas to post, but this is a traveled road and we
- 15 could try to perhaps post --
- 16 CHMN. FOREMAN: Certainly I think it should be
- 17 posted at some sort of reasonable interval along the
- 18 proposed line. If you have got a four-and-a-half mile
- 19 line, certainly within a sight line. I don't know whether
- 20 that's going to be a mile, or a half a mile, or
- 21 three quarters of a mile.
- 22 And then I think you should have a little larger
- 23 posting on these intersections with the roads so you have
- 24 got one down here, and then it should be going both ways.
- 25 You should have one each way on that road and one each way

- 1 on this road.
- MR. GRANT: Yeah. There is no public access to
- 3 this area, so that's what I was thinking. This is not
- 4 a -- but maybe post on this road and perhaps post on this
- 5 road?
- 6 CHMN. FOREMAN: So we would be talking only about
- 7 the civic-minded trespasser.
- 8 MR. GRANT: That's pretty much it. There's no
- 9 public access to the substation. So really, these are the
- 10 only two areas where there is public access in the
- 11 vicinity of the project.
- 12 CHMN. FOREMAN: Does the Staff have a position on
- 13 posting?
- MS. MITCHELL: Yeah. That's an interesting
- 15 question, seeing how it's, like, no one can see it out
- 16 there in the middle of wherever this is.
- When you say on this part of the map where the
- 18 mine is, are there roads that lead -- is there a building
- 19 where the mine used to be, or is there some office
- 20 building or parking lot? I'm sure the workers had to go
- 21 somewhere.
- 22 MR. GRANT: Sure. And they're showing some
- 23 facilities here. I just don't what that is. It's my
- 24 understanding everything is closed down.
- MS. MITCHELL: That's true.

- 1 MR. GRANT: Now, they may have maintenance crews
- 2 and those kinds of things, but there is no mining or other
- 3 activity taking place.
- 4 MS. MITCHELL: Usually the posting does need to
- 5 be along the route, you know, the proposed route.
- 6 CHMN. FOREMAN: Let's do that. Let's have --
- 7 MR. GRANT: I mean, we could certainly ask for
- 8 BHP's permission, and we can -- stakes and notices --
- 9 MS. MITCHELL: Somewhere close.
- MR. GRANT: -- a couple of times there. But I
- 11 just wanted to make sure that you knew that nobody is
- 12 going to be able to gain access to that.
- 13 CHMN. FOREMAN: Well, if there's no one around --
- 14 we may have people who casually walk through it. So let's
- 15 do not only two, one for each direction at the roads, but
- 16 let's put one up here near the intersection with the
- 17 Southwest line, and maybe one a mile -- or one in a sight
- 18 line along the proposed route.
- MR. GRANT: So about three.
- 20 CHMN. FOREMAN: Yeah.
- MR. GRANT: Three-and-a-half mile run, yeah.
- 22 CHMN. FOREMAN: Yes.
- 23 MR. GRANT: So two each way, Reddington and
- 24 river.
- 25 CHMN. FOREMAN: Uh-huh. Two, one each way.

- 1 MR. GRANT: I'm sorry. Two, one each way. And
- 2 then three en route.
- 3 CHMN. FOREMAN: Yeah. The Southwest Transmission
- 4 line that you are hooking into up there, I assume there's
- 5 some sort of right-of-way that goes down through the
- 6 desert or the trees up there.
- 7 MR. GRANT: I asked, and obviously they do have a
- 8 right-of-way there for the line. It is not a traveled
- 9 road by anyone. Now, we can certainly post as well --
- 10 CHMN. FOREMAN: Let's post one up there.
- MR. GRANT: -- at the intersection point with the
- 12 transmission line.
- 13 CHMN. FOREMAN: Yeah.
- MR. GRANT: But it's not -- again, there's no --
- 15 you know, occasionally there will be some traffic along
- 16 those, and this isn't one of those times.
- 17 CHMN. FOREMAN: Let's just put one up there
- 18 anyway. It will give the local gun enthusiasts a few
- 19 extra targets --
- MR. GRANT: To plunk at, yeah.
- One at the SWTC line. Got you. Okay.
- 22 CHMN. FOREMAN: All right. Any other issues that
- 23 we have raised? Any other issues that you guys have to
- 24 raise? Any objections or concerns about anything that
- 25 we've addressed so far?

- 1 MR. GRANT: Don't think so.
- MS. MITCHELL: No.
- 3 CHMN. FOREMAN: Good. Then I'll look forward to
- 4 getting a proposed final draft of the notice and what you
- 5 intend to post. We will check with our committee members
- 6 about an evening public comment session and a tour, and we
- 7 will go from there.
- 8 MR. GRANT: And Judge, when you say revised final
- 9 draft, I'm not sure that I have anything yet that I would
- 10 revise on this one.
- CHMN. FOREMAN: Well, you're going to need to put
- 12 in the times and the place.
- MR. GRANT: Oh, understood. Once I find out.
- 14 CHMN. FOREMAN: And the location.
- MR. GRANT: Sure.
- 16 CHMN. FOREMAN: So yes.
- 17 MR. GRANT: And get that to Robin as well.
- 18 CHMN. FOREMAN: And if I remember correctly, this
- 19 did not talk about a tour.
- MR. GRANT: It did not so far. Normally that
- 21 language is, I think, inserted in this area.
- 22 CHMN. FOREMAN: Uh-huh.
- MR. GRANT: Yeah.
- 24 CHMN. FOREMAN: Okay. If you could have an extra
- 25 copy of that for me, I would appreciate it.

- 1 MR. GRANT: Of this one?
- 2 CHMN. FOREMAN: Yes. Because I want to work on
- 3 that. I'm providing a copy of what I have provided for
- 4 you for our court reporter.
- 5 MR. GRANT: Yours to keep. I thought I had given
- 6 you one.
- 7 CHMN. FOREMAN: You did. It's buried underneath
- 8 here. All right. Very good. We'll go check on dates.
- 9 MR. GRANT: And then Tara, why don't I just get
- 10 back to you or have my assistant Peri get back to you on
- 11 that question of whether or not there is -- oh, if River
- 12 Road is only four-wheel drive.
- MS. WILLIAMS: Okay. Sure.
- 14 CHMN. FOREMAN: Yes. That would be a helpful bit
- 15 of information as far as whether people want to go on the
- 16 tour.
- 17 MR. GRANT: Right.
- 18 CHMN. FOREMAN: Okay. Very good.
- 19 MR. GRANT: Appreciate the time.
- 20 CHMN. FOREMAN: You bet. Looks like it should be
- 21 very simple and straightforward. Let's hope we can keep
- 22 it that way.
- 23 MR. GRANT: Keep our fingers crossed.
- 24 (The Prefiling Meeting concluded at 10:45 a.m.)

25

```
STATE OF ARIZONA
                           SS.
    COUNTY OF MARICOPA )
 3
             I, MICHELE E. BALMER, Certified Reporter
 4
 5
   No. 50489 for the State of Arizona, do hereby certify that
    the foregoing printed pages constitute a full, true and
 6
    accurate transcript of the proceedings had in the
 7
    foregoing matter, all done to the best of my skill and
   ability.
9
10
11
             WITNESS my hand this 22nd day of March, 2009.
12
13
14
15
                     M(CHELE E.
                     Certified Reporter
16
                     Certificate No. 50489
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
```